

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 580
ANSWERED ON 04/12/2025**

RESERVATION IN JUDICIARY

580. SMT. RAJATHI:

Will the Minister of *Law and Justice* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the representation of OBCs, SCs, STs and minorities among High Court Judges are to the extent of 23 percent only and 77 percent are from the upper castes; and
- (b) whether the Ministry has a proposal to bring in reservation in the higher judiciary to ensure adequate representation to reserved categories in appointment of Judges in High Courts and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF
LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) & (b): Appointment of Judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Therefore, category-wise data pertaining to representation of any caste or class of persons among the Judges of Supreme Court and the High Courts is not centrally available. Since 2018, the recommendees for the post of High Court Judges are required to provide details regarding their social background in the prescribed format (prepared in consultation with the Supreme Court). As per the information provided by the recommendees, out of 841 Judges appointed from 2018 till 28.11.2025, 32 belong to SC category, 17 belong to ST

category, 103 belong to OBC category and 46 belong to the minority category. 129 women were appointed as Judges in various High Courts during the same period.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP), the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. However, the Government is committed to enhancing social diversity in judiciary and has been requesting the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women to ensure social diversity in the appointment of Judges in High Courts. Only those persons who are recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium, are appointed as Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.
